

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 16-35 remain pending in the application, claims 1-15 having been canceled herein without prejudice.

Claims 16-26, 30-32 and 35 are rejected.

Claims 27-29, 33 and 34 are objected to.

Claims 16-26, 30-32, and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kirchner.

Claims 16, 22-26, 30-32, and 35 are alternatively rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Borchardt.

Claims 27-29 and 33-34 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In view of the above amendments it is submitted that the Examiner's rejections have been overcome and should be withdrawn and the present application should now be in condition for allowance.

Should any changes to the claims and/or specification be deemed necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned to discuss the same.

Appl. No. 09/937,970
Amdt. After Final Rejection Dated March 5, 2004
Reply to Office Action of November 26, 2003

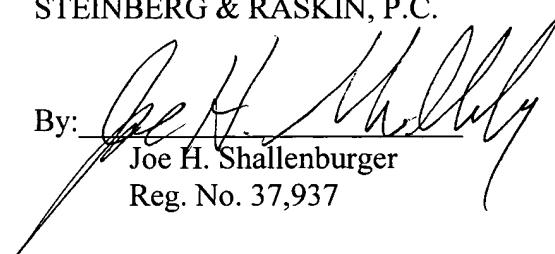
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A petition for a one-month extension of time with the requisite fee is attached herewith. In the event that any other extensions and/or fees are required for the entry of this Amendment, Commissioner is specifically authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0518 in the name of Steinberg & Raskin, P.C.

An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
STEINBERG & RASKIN, P.C.

By:


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